

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for his consideration of the present application. The Examiner has objected to claims 1, 22, 24 and 25. To overcome the Examiner's objections, claims 1, 22, 24 and 26 have been amended.

Amended claim 1 recites that each stage has: a complex filter for attenuating an interfering signal portion relative to a desired signal portion of a signal received by the complex filter; and a controlled amplifier having set minimum gain K_{\min} and maximum gain K_{\max} for amplifying the desired signal portion and the interfering signal portion of the signal received from the complex filter. Amended claims 22, 23 and 26 recite that each stage has: complex filter means for attenuating an interfering portion relative to a desired portion of signals received by the complex filter means; and controlled amplifier means having set minimum gain K_{\min} and maximum gain K_{\max} for amplifying the signals received from the complex filter means. The term "and." in claims 22 and 24 has been replaced with "and,".

The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by way of these amendments. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1, 22, 24 and 26 meet the requirements of formalities.

Claim 9 has been amended to replace "control means" with "control circuit". No new matter has been introduced by way of the amendment.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S. C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner stated that claim 1, line 18 recites the limitation "the combined gains", and there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the apparatus (of claim 1) provides the desired signal at a predetermined signal level at the apparatus output as a result of a total gain of the controlled amplifiers of the plurality of the complex filters/amplifier stages. The amendment to claim 1 is fully supported by the application as originally filed, for example, by page 6, lines 5-8. No new matter has been introduced by way of the amendment.

According to amended claim 1, the complex filter/amplifier stages 14_1 , 14_2 , ..., 14_n act independently of one another and with each stage acting on the output signal from the previous stage to produce a desired output signal having a predetermined signal level H at the output of the last stage. AGC setting 15_1 , 15_2 , ..., 15_n are used to control the gain of the respective amplifiers within their respective gain ranges. The signal level H is achieved in the last stage 14_n .

Hence it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-21 complies with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Applicants have amended page 9, lines 1-2 and lines 4-5 to replace reference characters " 36_I " and " 36_Q " with " 37_I " and " 37_Q ", respectively. The amendment to page 9 is for correcting a typographical error. No new matter has been introduced by way of the amendment.

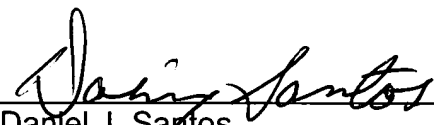
Applicants submit a clean version of Figures 1-6. Figure 5b has been amended so that the outputs of " $VGA\ 53_I$ " and " $VGA\ 53_Q$ " are connected to the inputs of " $DC\ Comp\ 57_I$ " and " $DC\ Comp\ 57_Q$ ", respectively. The amendment to Figure 5b is fully supported by the application as originally filed, for example, by page 11, lines 24-27. Figure 1 to 6 has been amended to replace the hand written reference numbers by printed reference numbers. No new matter has been introduced by way of the amendments.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, and having dealt with all of the matters raised by the Examiner, early reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and Applicants request a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should there be any further questions or concerns, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
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